

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17, 25-33, and 43-59 remain active in this case, Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-13, 15, 16, 25, 26, 28-32, 43, 44, 46-51, 53-55, 57 and 58 having been amended and Claims 18-24 and 34-42 canceled by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 18-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention was directed to non-statutory subject matter; Claims 34-42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter; Claims 1-15, 18-32, 34-41, and 43-57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wistendahl et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0056136, hereinafter "Wistendahl"); and Claims 16, 17, 33, 42, 58, and 59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wistendahl and in further view of Minor et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,740,252, hereinafter "Minor").

In response to the several grounds for rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101, Claims 18-24 and 34-42 have been canceled without prejudice in order to expedite resolution of issues and issuance of a patent from the present application. Accordingly, these grounds for rejection are moot.

In light of the several grounds for rejection based on prior art grounds, the remaining claims have been amended to clarify the claimed invention, thereby to more clearly patentably define over the cited prior art references. To that end, the amended claims are directed to a reverse link operation. For example, amended Claim 1 recites that when information associated with a "moving visual object" (e.g., information associated with an "object jump button 813") is selected, the "moving visual object" is reproduced. The object

recited in the amended claims is not "a jump button object," but is a "moving visual object." Thus, the amended claims clarify the type of each "object."

Wistendahl discloses "object mapping data" similar to the "object related information" employed in the present invention. However, the Wistendahl data differs from the claimed data since the former data includes time information. Namely, in Wistendahl, a "start time," at which an object appears, and an "end time," at which the object disappears are not designated. Wistendahl, paragraph [0031], merely describes that "The display location coordinates of the defined pixels and the frame address of the frames in which the area appears are stored separately as object mapping data." In Wistendahl, a frame address, for example, is designated for each frame, whereas in the present invention, no information is designated for each frame. In view of these differences, it is respectfully submitted that the amended independent Claims 1, 25 and 43 patentably define over Wistendahl, and that the outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) has been overcome. Withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

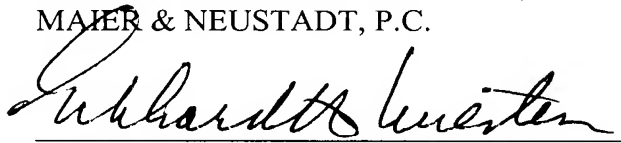
Furthermore, Wistendahl neither discloses nor suggests "mask data." stated in Claims 3, 17, 27, 45 and 59. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that Wistendahl differs in data form from that of the claimed invention, and is believed to be inferior to the claimed invention in the efficiency of data processing and in the degree of convenience of producing data. Compare, for example, FIGS. 1 and 2 of Wistendahl and the non-limiting embodiments of FIGS. 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the Applicants' disclosure.

As Applicants do not consider the teachings of Minor to be relevant to the claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that the several outstanding grounds for rejection have been overcome, and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above comments, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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